



CNO pays visit to Guam, USS Kitty Hawk

By Journalist 2nd Class Heather Paynter, COMNAVMARIANAS Public Affairs

GUAM (NNS) — Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jay L. Johnson visited USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) April 19, on the last day of its four-day stop in Guam. Kitty Hawk, forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, is the U.S. Navy's only permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier.

As Sailors from Kitty Hawk; U.S. Naval Forces Marianas; USS Frank Cable (AS 40) — Guam's only homeported Navy ship; and Helicopter Combat Support Squadron (HC) 5 made their way into the ship's hangar bay, many expressed curiosity about the message Johnson

would deliver.

Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class(AW) Cesar Bachman from San Ramon, Calif. was one of those waiting for his arrival. Bachman saw the Admiral on the CNO's visit to Kitty Hawk last year, but was still curious enough to work his way up to the front row. "I'm pretty excited," he said. "It will be interesting to hear what he has to say. If he says we have to go somewhere, then we'll go. We're the 911."

However, that wasn't the message to be delivered this

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Chief Of Naval Operations Adm. Jay Johnson, visits with Sailors on board USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) during an all hands call.

Photo by Photographer's Mate Airman Michael J. Pusnik Jr.

Navy's Personnel Chief checks pulse in the Med

By the Navy News Service

SIGONELLA, Sicily (NNS) — Vice Adm. Norb Ryan Jr., Chief of Naval Personnel, swept through the Mediterranean theater recently on a whirlwind tour of all the bases in the area. His mission was to keep Sailors informed about personnel issues, encourage a continuation of renewed retention efforts and get feedback from Sailors serving overseas.

The six day trip included three ship visits and 12 all hands calls at bases throughout Europe including Naples, Gaeta and La Maddalena, Italy; Souda Bay, Crete; Sigonella, Sicily; Rota, Spain and London.

Before an assembled group of more than 1,000

Sailors at NAS Sigonella, Sicily, on April 4, Ryan offered his sincere appreciation for their efforts that are keeping America strong. He then announced the Navy's "war for people in retention and recruiting" noting that "now was a great time, especially for mid-grade enlisted and officers to stay Navy."

"I have been looking at how industries attract and keep good people," said Ryan. "They will do almost anything and that's what we have to do in the Navy. We have to make sure we reward our people with pay and benefits, quality of service and quality of life for them and their families."

Ryan spoke for approxi-

mately 25 minutes on initiatives the Bureau has taken to ensure quality Sailors stay Navy, then he took questions from the audience. Among initiatives discussed were the policy regarding sea-shore rotations that provides many rates with more time ashore, pay table restructuring, and others. Hearing about the detailing process from the individual in charge of all detailers was interesting to some in the crowd as well.

"It's nice to see people at the top paying attention and coming out here to set the record straight," said Illustrator Draftsman 2nd Class Chris Sanguinett of the station's administrative department.

"You always hear stories about detailers who aren't looking out for your best interests, so it was good to hear about the process from the man at the top."

Ryan acknowledged that the principal concern of Sailors in the Fleet is advancement. "Promotions from the advancement exam cycle are up and are going to stay up. We are going to have 415 more E-8s this year than last, we were up 3,800 more petty officers than last cycle and the next cycle will be even higher."

It appears that some of the Navy's new initiatives have done what they set out to do; make quality Sailors decide

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GUARD 2000 program offers more options to stay Navy

By Chief of Naval Personnel and Naval Personnel Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — Negotiating for orders can be a tug-of-war between what a Sailor wants and what the Navy needs. Now, an old program with some new twists and a new name is helping Sailors and detailers find mutually agreeable assignments.

The Guaranteed Assignment Retention Detailing (GUARD) program has been revitalized and improved by providing first-term Sailors with more options when they reach their end of active obligated service (EAOS). GUARD 2000, recently announced in NAVADMIN 083/00 and effective immediately, is focused on easing the transition from a downsizing force to a retention force.

The previous program, GUARD III, provided guaranteed assignment to choice of homeport/duty station or ship type in exchange for a four, five, or six-year enlistment. It was available twice during a 25-year career; at the end of the first

enlistment, and at the end of any other enlistment, up to 25 years of service. GUARD III had no duty sea duty waivers, and there was limited applicability to low-priority requisitions.

The new GUARD 2000 program allows Prescribed Sea Tour (PST) waivers of up to 18 months for first-term Sailors on a case-by-case basis and gives detailers greater flexibility in assigning Sailors to lower priority billets.

Waiver guidelines are being constantly reviewed and revised to ensure they are responsive to the needs of the Navy, while considering the desires of the individual Sailor. The new program offers guaranteed assignment to choice of homeport/duty station or ship type in exchange for a four, five or six-year enlistment. In addition, GUARD 2000 is available twice during a 20-year career; at the end of the first enlistment, and at the end of any other enlistment, up to 17 years of service.

“Reenlistment lengths due to sea duty waivers and requisition priority guidelines are being kept as flexible as possible,” said Cmdr. David Ruedi, Admin/Deck/Supply Enlisted Assignments Branch Head at NAVPERSCOM. “This is necessary because of the many variables that exist among the ratings.”

“The key to the success of this program is communication between the Sailors and their detailers before the 1306/7 is submitted,” he emphasized.

Considerations in approving a GUARD 2000 request include manning of the rating/paygrade; amount of PST being waived; length of service obligation (with a view toward ensuring a follow-on sea tour), and priority of billets that satisfy the request.

Maintaining recruiting billets fully manned continues to be a high priority, and volunteers for recruiting duty will be given maximum consideration for the greatest sea tour waivers with the minimum obligated service required.

For more information, please see NAVADMIN 083/00, available on the Navy Personnel Command/BUPERS web site at <http://www.bupers.navy.mil>.

Granuzzo transfers Gray Eagle title to Maslowski

By CNO Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Rear Adm. Andrew A. Granuzzo, naval aviation’s Gray Eagle for the last five years, recently passed the title to Rear Adm. James I. Maslowski during a Washington, D.C., ceremony at which he retired after almost 42 years of service.

The Venerable Order of the Gray Eagle is held by the active duty naval aviator — Navy or Marine — who has worn wings of gold the longest.

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jay L. Johnson, a naval aviator himself and the keynote speaker at Granuzzo’s retirement ceremony, talked about the

importance of designating the Gray Eagle within the naval aviation community. “While some of the criteria may be relative — g-tolerance, eyes of an eagle — some of it is absolute — like experience and contributions to naval aviation. Both are represented well in the outgoing and the incoming Gray Eagle.”

The Venerable Order of the Gray Eagle was first presented on Jan. 25, 1961, the 50th anniversary of naval aviation. The first Gray Eagle was Adm. Charles “Cat” Brown, then Commander in Chief, Allied Forces, Southern Europe. Since then, 35 naval aviators

have officially held the title.

Each Gray Eagle has his name, date of wings and naval aviator number engraved on a large trophy maintained at the Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Fla. A smaller replica trophy is presented to each new Gray Eagle by Northrop Grumman Corporation, which sponsors the award.

A native New Yorker, Granuzzo most recently served as the director, environmental protection, safety and occupational health division for the office of the Chief of Naval Operations. Granuzzo enlisted in the Navy in 1958. He was

commissioned and earned his wings as a helicopter pilot in 1963. He commanded Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 15, was navigator of the aircraft carrier USS Forrestal (CV 59) and commanded two ships, USS Inchon (LPH 12) and USS Saipan (LHA 2).

Granuzzo was selected to flag rank in 1991. His first assignment as a flag officer was commander of Amphibious Group 2 with the additional assignment of commander of Amphibious Strike Force. He went on to serve as commander of the Naval Safety Center, commander of

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Mahan Sailors “walk the walk” with retention levels

By USS Mahan Public Affairs

USS MAHAN, At Sea (NNS) — When it comes to keeping Sailors in the Navy, it's hard to beat the crew of USS Mahan (DDG 72). With an overall retention rate of 67.82 percent, Mahan Sailors lead the East Coast and earned the 1999 Atlantic Fleet Retention Award, formerly Golden Anchor Award, for medium-size ships.

Mahan leadership primarily focuses on the issues Sailors bring up consistently as the most important factors in their decision to stay in the Navy. Mahan strives to recognize issues such as command climate, responsibility, respect, recognition, career counseling and training, implementing them into daily routine and command philosophy.

“I'm in contact with my Sailors each and every day and I'm constantly told and can see with my own eyes that the most important factor in retention is command climate,” said Command Master Chief, Operations Specialist(SW) Gregory Greene. “It's ensuring that the individual has a place to sleep, that they get to eat even after meal hours, that they get a ‘Welcome Aboard’ from their new shipmates. It's the overall general concern for each and

every Sailor.”

A personal welcome aboard letter is sent to every future shipmate describing the ship, general policies onboard, expectations, and the ship's current events, along with a welcome aboard package with newspaper clippings, maps, and recreation services around Mahan's homeport of Norfolk, Va.

“I was very impressed with the correspondence I received from the ship after I got orders to Mahan,” said Mahan's strike officer Lt. j.g. Laura Murphy. “It's been seven months since I reported on board, and nothing has changed. The enthusiasm and care of each Sailor is still evident every day.”

Mahan's officers and chief petty officers urge all Sailors to work toward positions of higher responsibility. To turn an entire ship over to E-6s and below is an unprecedented level of trust. But on any given day underway Mahan may be completely run, with the exception of the tactical action officer, by E-6s and below.

“I always thought the greatest job on the ship was Quartermaster of the Watch,” said Quartermaster 1st Class John Urry. “That all changed



ITC Kyra Jenkins reenlists aboard USS Mahan (DDG 72) with Lt. Cmdr. Douglas Nashold, executive officer. Mahan Sailors earned the 1999 Atlantic Fleet Retention Award, formerly Golden Anchor Award, for medium-size ships. U.S. Navy photo

when I started my qualifications for OOD.”

In addition to reenlistment and discharge certificates, the command presents the Sailor a “I reenlisted on board USS Mahan” mug, a USS Mahan reenlistment pen, and a photograph of the ship signed by the commanding officer. They also receive a “bennie book” that includes two and three-day special liberty passes, one duty day off, one half day off for the entire division, a \$25 gift certificate from the ship's store, a \$10 gift certificate from a local restaurant, discounts

on tours while on deployment, and one night in the commanding officer's at-sea cabin.

“When I reenlisted, I truly felt like it was my day because of the time and effort that my shipmates put into it,” said Interior Communications Electrician 3rd Class Christopher Byron.

USS Mahan is currently in the Mediterranean on its maiden deployment.

For more information about USS Mahan, go to: <http://www.spear.navy.mil/ships/ddg72>.

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day. “Last year I was here to inform you of the schedule change to the Gulf,” Johnson said, referring to the Kitty Hawk Sailors. “Today I'm here to deliver a message, but that's not the one. I want to tell you all, whether you work on Kitty Hawk, Frank Cable, on base, or at HC-5, how proud I am of what you represent each and every day.”

The CNO went on to speak of recruiting and retention challenges, but was optimistic about the ultimate success of the Navy and Marine Corps in meeting their recruiting goals. He also congratulated Sailors on

board Kitty Hawk for their impressive retention statistics, including receipt of CINCPACFLT's Retention Excellence Award. “Your retention numbers blew me away when I saw them,” said Johnson.

Johnson said the key to the Navy's success is effective leadership, teamwork and pride. Improving quality of life for those serving at sea is one element in sustaining that success. “Efforts to fill empty sea billets are ongoing and improving. Things are getting better,” he said. “We're moving towards gradually working the number of empty at-sea billets

down to zero.”

The CNO pointed out to all the Sailors present that without them, the Navy could not be what it is today. “The key to success in the U.S. Navy is standing right in front of me,” he said. “Without you, there would be nothing. You need to be proud of what you do each and every day.”

For more about USS Kitty Hawk, go to: <http://www.kittyhawk.navy.mil>; USS Frank Cable, go to: <http://www.cable.navy.mil/home.htm>; Navy in Guam, go to: <http://www.guam.navy.mil>.

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to stay.

"These new initiatives are looking better since they are made with us in mind," said Aviation Structural Mechanic (structural) 2nd Class Christopher Busenlehner of the weld shop at Sigonella's Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD). "The reduction in the paperwork required to advance and better chances to make rate made me decide to reenlist for another three years. After that, I'll need to make a decision whether I make it a career or not, but these initiatives are looking better."

The next day, Ryan visited the U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay on the Greek island of Crete. After reenlisting Souda Bay's Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class Willy Adams and Aviation Boatswain's Mate (aircraft handling) 2nd Class Effrey Larson, Ryan discussed personnel issues during another all hands call.

Ryan announced that the Bluejacket Hometown Area Recruiting Program (HARP) is being opened to Sailors serving in the Med. Bluejacket HARP, originally

designed for Sailors serving in the continental U.S., is the new program in which Navy Recruiting Command will pay for Sailors' round trip airfare back home to work with area recruiters for at least two weeks.

"We are looking for sharp, young Sailors with command support, such as Sailors of the Quarter, to go back home and help in our recruiting effort," Ryan said. "Get your requests in while the funds are available."

Ryan also gave some hints as to what's down the road. "What we're working on is trying to get authorization to restore the buying power of career sea pay. Once we get that authorization under the Secretary's control, I'm hopeful of funding that at a very vigorous rate in 2002. Also, we're trying to get our E-4 single Sailors off of the ships when they come home from deployment so that they can either live in the BEQ or out in town. We would like to get that authorization this year and again try and fund it in '02."

"Those are two of the principal issues we are working inside the Navy," said Ryan. "Of course, the

Secretary of Defense is working on BAH (Basic Allowance for Housing) and buying that down from 15 percent out-of-pocket this year to zero over the Future Year Defense Plan. And the Joint Chiefs of Staff, including our Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jay Johnson, are working very hard to improve the military health care system. Those are some big issues that we are working."

"Visiting the Fleet and listening to the Sailors on the tip of the spear about what is important to them invigorates us back at the Bureau," Ryan

said. "I work for these Sailors and am committed to providing them good reasons to stay Navy."

Editor's note: NASSIG Public Affairs and Paul Farley of NSA Souda Bay Public Affairs contributed to this story.

For a look at duty in Sicily, go to: <http://www.sicily.navy.mil>.

For Souda Bay, Crete, go to: <http://aphrodite.souda.navy.mil>.

For La Maddalena, go to: <http://www.lamadd.navy.mil>.

For Rota, go to: <http://www.rota.navy.mil>.

For Naples, go to: <http://www.nsa.naples.navy.mil>.

Navy Marine Corps News

Look for the following stories and more on next week's Navy/Marine Corps News show:

- * Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig visits Sailors and Marines in the Far East;
- * Marines use a real world training scenario in the real city of Swansborough, N.C.;
- * ET1 Michael Harvey takes on a big job as a ship's superintendent aboard USS Emory S Land (AS 39);
- * The third Virginia-class submarine is named for the "Aloha State" during a ceremony in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Compiled on tape #2000-17, the show is on its way to the fleet now.

In naval history: April 25, 1898

Congress declared war with Spain. The declaration was a result of the sinking of the battleship Maine in Cuba's Havana Harbor two months earlier.

Submarine Centennial history: April 26, 1980

The second Trident submarine, USS Michigan (SSBN 727) was launched at Electric Boat Division, General Dynamics Corporation, in Groton, Conn. Today, the Navy's 18 Trident ballistic submarines have completed over 3,400 deterrent patrols and serve as the nation's front line of strategic defense.

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the Joint Interagency Task Force East in Key West, Fla., and deputy commander in chief and chief of staff for the Iberian Atlantic Area in Lisbon, Portugal, before beginning his most recent assignment in February 1998.

Maslowski is the director of Navy International Programs Office for the assistant secretary of the Navy for research, development and acquisition. He received his naval aviator

wings June 25, 1965. He has logged over 4,000 flight hours flying the A-4 Skyhawk, F-4J Phantom II, A-7E Corsair II, and the F/A-18 Hornet. He has commanded Navy Attack Squadron (VA) 94, USS Concord (AFS 5), and USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63), and also served as a demonstration pilot with the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels.